



HEADQUARTERS

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT, G. A. R.  
GUILFORD, CONN., DECEMBER 15, 1908.

General Orders. No. 6.

## **Observance of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12, 1909.**

The Department Commander desires to call the attention of the officers of Posts and comrades of the Department to the report of the National Committee on plan for observance of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, dated November 9, 1908, and approved by the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The recommendations of the National Committee on Plan meets with the hearty approval of the Commander of this Department, and for the purpose of having the recommendations of the Committee carried into effect, he hereby appoints the Post Commanders of each Post in the Department elected in the month of December, 1908, as a member of a General Committee to arrange for such celebration.

The comrades so appointed will each have full charge of the organization of such celebration in the town or city in which his Post is located and the adjacent towns in which no Posts of the G. A. R. exist. Where there are two or more Posts in the same town or city, the comrades hereby appointed shall act jointly and shall be called together for organization by the Commander of the Senior Post.

The Post Adjutants are hereby required to forward to these headquarters immediately after election the names of the Post Commanders-elect in order that their names may be published in future orders.

The members of the Committee are requested to carry out as far as possible the recommendations of the "National Committee on Plan," which is as follows:

(a). That every Post shall recognize the day in some fitting manner, either in special meeting, or in attendance as a body where a public celebration is held.

(b). That in cities or towns where there are more than one Post, there shall be a united observance, where it is practicable, embracing all the Posts, which shall be public.

(c). That in the rural districts the exercises shall be held at the county seat, to which all Posts may send delegates without limit, or at such other places as the Posts shall designate for their convenience.

(d) That the co-operation of the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons and Daughters of Veterans, and all other patriotic societies be invited to participate in all functions arranged for this occasion.

(e). That all departments of education controlling colleges, universities, and public, parochial or private schools, be requested to arrange for recognition of the day with appropriate and special exercises, and we recommend the following program:

## 1. KELLER'S AMERICAN HYMN.

## 2. INVOCATION.

"Almighty Father: Humbly we bow before Thee, our Creator, Guide and Preserver. We thank Thee for what faith makes real to us; Thine almighty power that created the heavens and the earth and all things that are therein; the boundless love that environs Thy children and moves them reverently to say, 'Our Father.' We thank Thee for the noble men under whose leadership this fair land was dedicated to freedom of thought, expression and action; to their successors who have given themselves to solving grave problems arising from changing conditions. At this hour we would specially thank Thee, that in the time of the country's dire peril a man was sent of Thee equal to the emergency. We pray, our Father, that these evidences of Thy love and goodness and these examples of noble living and noble doing, may inspire us all to attempt to live unselfishly, and to do our duty as far as in us lies according to the precepts of Thy Holy Word, and to Thee we give all the honor and praise, now and forever more. Amen."

3.	"BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC," (Solo with Chorus.)	.....
4.	SKETCH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, (Not over 500 words.)	.....
5.	LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS,	.....
6.	CENTENNIAL HYMN (J. G. Whittier), (See J. K. Paine, page 79.)	.....
7.	EXTRACTS AND QUOTATIONS FROM THE WRITINGS AND SPEECHES OF LINCOLN, (By Selected Pupils.)	.....
8.	"STAR SPANGLED BANNER,"	By Audience
9.	ADDRESS (Life and Character of Lincoln),	.....
10.	"AMERICA,"	By Audience
11.	BENEDICTION,	.....

(f). That the clergy are requested to have special services in their churches, synagogues and Sabbath schools on the Sabbath preceding February 12th.

And this committee recommends and urges that every comrade shall have *personal notice* of the forthcoming observance; be furnished with the Order of Exercises herewith issued, and fully informed of the purpose to issue at cost from the National Headquarters upon requisition of the Depart-

ment Quartermaster, a Souvenir Medal, suitably inscribed, that will be a welcome heirloom token of the patriotism of the comrade who served in the Union Army or Navy during the Civil War under the direction of its Commander-in-Chief, Abraham Lincoln.

And it is further urged, without waiting for more definite details, that immediate steps be taken to carry out the program, that it may be complete, and its example a stimulation for a general recognition of the day.

And it is recommended that the following program be the Order of Exercises for all Assemblies (except as provided for schools).

1. MUSIC (Instrumental),	.....
2. INVOCATION (Same as recommended for schools),	.....
3. "AMERICA,"	By the Audience
4. VOCAL MUSIC (Solo or Glee Club),	.....
5. ADDRESS (Life and Character of Lincoln),	.....
6. "STAR SPANGLED BANNER,"	By the Audience
7. GETTYSBURG ADDRESS,	.....
8. "NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE,"	By the Audience
9. DOXOLOGY,	By the Audience
10. BENEDICTION,	.....

ALLAN G. BAKEWELL, Chairman,

ST. CLAIR A. MULHOLLAND,

J. PAYSON BRADLEY,

WILBUR F. BROWN,

HEMAN W. ALLEN,

Committee.

Approved:

HENRY M. NEVIUS,

*Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.*

Official:

FRANK O. COLE,

*Adjutant General.*

Each member of the Committee hereby appointed is directed to report to W. E. Morgan, Asst. Adjt.-Genl., G. A. R., New Haven, Conn., on January 15, 1909, what action he has taken in carrying out the provisions of this order in order that the Department Commander may be informed and may appoint additional Committeemen where necessary, and thereafter to report his action to the same officer on February 1, 1909.

The Department Commander relies upon the Committee hereby appointed to see that this order is carried out promptly, energetically and systematically, that the celebration shall be general throughout this Department.

By command of

EDWARD GRISWOLD,

*Department Commander.*

WM. E. MORGAN,

*Asst. Adjt.-General.*

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